

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 SAM-01 ACDA-07 /081 W

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O 231337Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7829

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

DIA WASHDC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, KN, KS

SUBJECT: PRAVDA REPORTS KOREAN INCIDENT

REF: MOSCOW 13238

1. PRAVDA (AUGUST 22) FOLLOWED UP ITS EARLIER LOW-KEY TREATMENT OF LAST WEEK'S INCIDENT IN KOREA (REFTEL) WITH A SHORT ITEM FROM NEW YORK ON THE CONTINUING TENSIONS. THE ITEM, BY PRAVDA'S NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT KURDYUMOV, IS CALLED "THEY INFLAME TENSION", AND SAYS THAT THE "WAR OF NERVES" OVER THE INCIDENT IS INTENSIFYING. THE ARTICLE CITES THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AS NOT RULING OUT THE U.S. USE OF FORCE AGAINST NORTH KOREA, AND THE ITEM NOTES THE CONTINUED BUILD-UP OF U.S. FORCES, INCLUDING THE MIDWAY TASK

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FORCE, AS PART OF A "DEMONSTRATION OF FORCE."

2. COMMENT: PRAVDA AGAIN IS THE ONLY MEDIA ORGAN TO REPORT ON THE KOREAN SITUATION AND AGAIN AVOIDS ANY DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT ITSELF. WHILE BLAMING INCREASED TENSIONS ON THE U.S. BUILD-UP, THE ARTICLE DOES NOT REPLAY OR EVEN MENTION ANY NORTH KOREAN ALLEGATIONS. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK COMMENTARY (AUGUST 22) DOES NOT MENTION KOREA, AND PRAVDA (AUGUST 23) REJOINS THE OTHER MEDIA IN THEIR SILENCE ON THE MATTER.

3. THIS TREATMENT DEMONSTRATES ACUTE SOVIET CAUTION ON THE KOREAN SITUATION AND IMPLIES THAT MOSCOW SEEKS TO MAINTAIN CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE FROM PYONGYANG ON THIS ISSUE.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DMZ, MURDER, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D760321-0601
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Date: 10 MAY 2004
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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